touch with President Wilson's peace plans for some time, and it is an open secret that Switzerland strongly favored the sending of his note to the belligerents idea of the President adding an appendix to his reply to the German note virtually endorsing it before transmitting it to the Entente Powers.

Of course, the endorsement was only to extend to the general desire for peace as expressed in the German docupents and in no sense connected with ment and in no sense connected with sending of his note to the belligerents and exhorted their brethren in belligerents which the idea of peace might be developed.

A despatch from Amsterdam says:

Commenting on the German reply to President Wilson's note the Lokaian-seiger of Berlin says:

4 Temps" Says Germany Is Try-Mackensen Smashes Line

nt and in no sense connected with h terms of peace as Germany may

Officials here explain that the direct Officials here explain that the direct aftermath to the President's notes has not been at all as he expected. He has seen developments so shape themselves that the United States now in spite of Excif stands in the position of urging the Entente to accept Germany's central idea and discuss possible terms of peace. The only difference between the German and American proposals, according to Entente diplomats, is in method. Germany wants a peace conference. The iny wants a peace conference. wident wants terms outlined in a

### President's Realization.

So nearly identical in purpose are these two notes regarded that reports from abroad say it will be unnecessary for the Entente to reply to the German proposal if they reply to the note of the United States, or vice versa.

A reply to the German note will be a

The Freeident is now said to realize fully that to all impartial observers the port of his note to the Entente is virtually the same as the German peace offer. Tois has been trikingly empha-

offer. Twis has been circkingly emphasized by the German reply, which heartily endorses the President's basic idea but differs as to method.

Germany's arguments in support of the peace conference idea too are causing concern here, because they appear to have the backing of sound logic which the President's suggestions, being vague in form, necessarily have not.

The Berlin - orekin Office and Ambasizeder Gerard are understood to be already engaged in an exchange of views

sider Gerard are understood to be ar-ready engaged in an exchange of views concerning the respective merits of the German or American method. Ger-many emphasizes the fact that it is entirely impracticable for fourteen nations to settle intricate questions of terms in open public discussion. Therefore Geropen public discussion. Therefore Ger-many cannot believe that the President can persist in his request that Germany outline terms in a reply to the American

Mr. Gerard is necessarily placed in position of distinct disadvantage in urg-ing support for the President's method because the obvious arguments of Berlin

ing support for the President's method because the obvious arguments of Berlin are difficult to answer.

The trump card which Berlin is in a position to play in this connection is the obvious fact that Germany could make far more liberal terms to the Entents accretly than would be possible otherwise. It is pointed out, for example, that if the Imperial Government were to outline extremely liberal terms there would certainly be a wave of hostile feeling throughout the German empire.

The prestige of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg would suffer severely, it is pointed out, and the followers of extreme military measures, including the backers of Von Tirpitz and his ruthless submarine warfare, would gain greatly, even though nothing definite resulted from the German liberal concessions.

### Effect of Wilson's Plan.

Berlin does not believe President Wil-son would insist upon the pursuance of such a policy, even if it could be brought about by his insistence. It would, it is explained, be playing directly into the hands of the unfriendly or anti-Ameri-can elements in Germany and embar-rassing the supporters of a pro-American policy.
Officials admit that there is food for

officials admit that there is food for mature consideration in the German viewpoint. On the American side there is no argument, it is pointed out, except the vague statement that the President "deelres to know the aims" of the belligerents. Germany, as explained in her note, regards the very vagueness of the te, regards the very vagueness of the President's ideas as giving good reason for her coming forward with practical suggestions. The next move rests with President Wilson. No one in authority will say to-night

No one in authority will say to-night whether the German note will bring forth a reply. It is expected that it will, however. The difficulty in framing a reply that will not seriously affect the present and future position of this Government in the eyes of the world is one of the subjects which will give the President considerable trouble.

Indications are that the President will let this perplaying propiler remain dor.

let this perplexing problem remain dor-mant for the present at least. He is un-derstood to hope that replies from the Entente may at the eleventh hour

change the situation.

The President also has the all important question of squaring accounts with Germany for violations of the U-boat pledge before him, and there may have been some connection between this and Mr. Lansing's visit. Secretary Lansing declined to comment on his conference to-day except to say that he had taken p with the President matters pertaining to State Department business

### ALLIES' TERMS FIXED.

Landon "Times" Says America De serves Details of Objects Desired. pecial Cable Despatch to Tun Bux from the

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The Times com-ments as follows editorially upon Ger-many's answer to the peace note of

President Wilson:
"The praises lavished upon this masterpiece of the Wilhemstrasse by the German newspapers will hardly tend to assuage the feeling that these remarks exhibit. Some of them, like the Kocknicke Volkazeitung, which have habitually poured abuse upon the United States and President Wilson, have wheeled about with distribution. wheeled about with disciplined prompt-ltude and are now full of adulation. "The Allies are necessarily and rightly

"The Allies are necessarily and rightly taking time before making their answers to Germany's note and that of President Wilson. There never has been a shadow of a doubt what the general nature of those answers will be. They will insist upon restitution, reparation and guarantees as the cardinal and primary condition of any terms of pages.

dition of any terms of peace.

"But while the tenor of the allied reply to America is certain, a great deal may depend on the impression created by such documents by their wording and manner of expression. We feel we owe the American people a more claborate statement of the object of the Allies and the peace terms by which alone these objects can be attained than any which

we have yet issued.
"We cannot even begin to negotiate while Belgium, Serbia and large tracts of France, Russia and Rumania are under the enemy's heel. Evacuation, restitution and reparation are conditions that ermst precede not merely peace but the discussion of peace. In order that they must be something more than scraps of paper peace treaties must destroy the spirit of Prussian militarism which Lloyd George justly describes as the true

Accommodations Being

A despatch from Amsterdam says:
Commenting on the German reply to
President Wilson's note the Lokalanzeiger of Berlin says:
"From the fact that Germany has not
allowed the Christmas festival to pass
without replying to President Wilson's

without replying to President Wilson's note even our enemies must gain the conviction that we made the peace offer seriously. Should Mr. Wilson be induced by our note to recommend to our enemies that they send representatives to a neutral place for the purpose of peace negotiations we should still be far from abandoning ourselves to the hope that the move would meet with success at London, Paris, Petrograd and Rome."

The Taegliche Russischau of Berlin says: "Our Government's announcement

neutrals is very satisfactory because it gives us a guarantee that we will de-cline declayely the interference of non-participants in the fighting and in the

participants in the creation of peace."

The Vossische Zeisung, referring to the Swiss note, says: "If further neutral notes are couched in similar tone they certainly will find a sympathetic understanding among us. The Swiss note standing among us. A reply to the German note. Both Germany and the United States seek the same aims, it is said, and both will set the same answer if replies in duplicate traility which has characterized Switzerland during the entire war."

### SWEDEN ACTS.

Note Supporting Wilson's Move Handed to the Powers.

BERN (via Paris), Dec. 27.-The Tageblatt of Berlin announces that the Swedish diplomatic representatives have handed to both belligerents and neutrals a note in support of those of President Wilson and the Swiss Government.

The London Daily Telegraph said yes-terday that it understood the Swedish dovernment had sent a note to the belligerent nations similar to that des-patched by Switzerland.

### LINCOLN IS CITED.

Rome Newspaper Says Allies Are in Similar Position.

Roms, via Paris, Dec. 27 .- The newspapers continue to discuss President Wil-son's note to the belligerents as an im-portant diplomatic event. The Giornale D'Italia suggests that the Allies should treat it precisely as President Lincoln did in rejecting France's effort to inter-vene in the American civil war. "If the dead of Gettyaburg inspired President Lincoln's respect," says the newspaper, "so our dead of the Tren-tino must inspire Baron Sonnino's an-swer to President Wilson."

**GERMAN FLIERS** 

Nine Entente Airplanes Are Brought Down in Day, Berlin Announces.

LONDON, Dec. 27 .- Nine French and British airplanes were brought down during the last zenty-four hours after fights with German alemen, according dent,

The day was one of heavy artillery fire, which was most violent south of That is the significance of the man Bombardments are reported also in Belgium. The only infantry fighting took place between French troops and the German defenders of a trench raided by the French south of the Avre. The raid was made after several mines had lin the 26th. been exploded under German positions. The French and Belgian statements to-

night follow: French-Marked artillery activity French—Marked artillery activity was displayed in several sectors south of the Somme. One of our bombardments caused two fires and an explosion in an enemy battery.

Belgian—At various points on the Belgian front there was moderate artillery activity, particularly in the direction of Steenstraete and Dixmude.

The French statement issued in the The night was calm except on the front between Vacherauville and Vaux (Verdun sector), where the artillery

was very active. Lieut, Herteaux brought down on Lieut. Hericaux brought down on December 24 his fourteenth airplane, between Chaulnes and Hyencourt-le-Grand (south of the Somme).

Last night British infantsy made another successful raid on German trenches, bombing dugouts and damaging defences for several hundred wards in costilons

for several hundred yards in positions between Lens and Loos. The British official statement issued to-night also says three British alrolanes are missing after an active day in which one German machine was destroyed and five forced to land demand. The statement received

land damaged. The statement says On Tuesday night a party of our troops searched for some few hundred yards the enemy's front line trenches northwest of Lens, bombing his dugouts and doing considerable damage to his defences.

Our positions on the right of our line north of the Somme and near La Sara were heavily shelled by the enemy at intervals Tuesday night and Wednesday. Bombardments of the enemy defences and trench mortar emplacements were carried as: placements were carried out by us with good results south of Arras, in the neighborhood of ffuiluch and west of Measines.

On Tuesday much successful work was done by our airmen in coopera-tion with our artillery. In the course of a number of fights in the air a hostile machine was destroyed and five othern were forced to land in a dam-aged condition. Three of our maaged condition. T

The German announcement says:
In the Ypres salient and on the
north bank of the Somme a violent
artillery engagement began at noon,
the weather being bright. In the evening it decreased when rain again beran to fall In aerial engagements the enemy

### FRANCE OWES \$3,000,000,000.

Adverse Trade Balance for the May.

Year 1016 Is Forcesat. Paris, Dec. 27.—Official statistics now available place the value of imports in PEACE AGENTS AT HAGUE November at 2,111,000,000 france (\$422,-200,000) and exports at 727,000,000

francs (\$145,400,000).

Sought for German Delegates.
London, Dec. 27—A despatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from The Hague says:

"In view of the preparatory meeting of delegates to a peace conference suggested in the German reply to President Wilson German agents have arrived at The Hague and are making inquiries for intel accommodations for German delegates."

The Dutch section of the World's Enion of Churches held a crowded meeting last night in the largest church in

ing to Force Peace by a Ruse.

Swiss Again Assured by Kaiser That He Will Not Violate Neutrality.

Special Cable Despatch to Tur Sts.
PARIS, Dec. 27.—So far as the correply to President Wilson's peace note is judged as no reply at all; merely an avoidance of a real answer.

M. Clemenceau's two coloumn editorial blaming the Government for delay in answering Germany's note is emphasized here as the evening papers print Germany's response to the Wilson note. It is held this gives Germany another point on taction as it displays the rapid action of the Central Powers, even when, as here, the action amounts really but to a show of setion.

The German reply brings to the front one of the radical differences between the viewpoints of the belligerents. Germany separates the prevention of future wars from the question of the settlement of the present war, leaving permanent peace to be taken up after this war is finished, according to her note.

France's Double Purpose. France, on the contrary, intends to ac-complish both at once, finishing the pres-ent war in such a way that any future war shall be impossible so far as human conventions can make it.

conventions can make it.

The German reply takes no account of the greatest barrier of all between the beiligerents. France considers that she knows Germany and the value of Germany's word. France feels it impossible for her to accept a proposition from any quarter, much less from Germany, which involves her placing faith and confidence in anything concerning Germany's word. Germany's word.

The newspapers comment freely on Germany's reply. All of them affirm that it contains nothing not contained in Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg's first communication, except that it proposes a conference in some neutral capital. "Germany," says the Temps, "invites sians we her adversaries to a conference without defence. making to them any disclosure of what she proposes to say until their delegates surround the green cloth."

The Temps then attacks in detail what terms the systematic mendacity of Von Bethmann-Hollweg respecting the origin of the war, and alleges that he changed the date of the note of Count von Berchtold, the Austrian Foreign Minister, of which the Chancellor spoke

recently in the Reichstag.

The newspaper asserts that while Count von Bernstorff says one thing in the United States. Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg says another in Germany and expresses the hope that Washington will the German Government's declaration,

to the German official statement to-day. be a German peace which she will tear from her adversaries by a ruse, not hav-ing had the power to conquer it by force the Somme, at Verdun and near Ypres. which outlines itself more clearly every

La Liberte remarks that Germany re-

"Never in the exchange of communicastrasse shown such celerity. period of the torpedoing of the Lusi-tania Germany allowed entire months to pass without communicating to Mr. Wilson explanations embarrasing and be-

Our enemy declines to unmask her bat-teries. The trap is more evident than ever, but the Allies will not be caught."

A despatch to the Journal des Debais

A despatch to the Journal des Debais

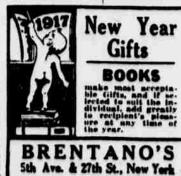
The Swiss Pederal Council has, according to information received from Germany guaranteeing once more from Germany guaranteeing once more access were given as the result of the same was broken by Russian guaranteeing once more access were given as the result of the same process were given as the result of the same process were given as the result of the same process were given as the result of the same process were given as the result of the same process were given as the result of the same process were given as the result of the same process were given as the result of the remainder of the Russo-Rumanian front no engagement of real importance is reported. Heavy gun fire in the Oituz Valley on the Moldavian front no engagement of real importance is reported. Heavy gun fire in the Oituz Valley on the Moldavian front no engagement of real importance is reported. Heavy gun fire in the Oituz Valley on the Moldavian front on engagement of real importance is reported. Heavy gun fire in the Oituz Valley on the Moldavian front outperformed in the Oituz Valley on the Moldavian front may presage infantly attacks there. Near Kovel a German attacking force was the control of the Oituz Valley on the Moldavian front may presage infantly attacks there. Near Kovel and German attacking force was the control of the Oituz Valley on the Moldavian front may presage infantly attacks there. from Geneva says:
"The Swiss Federal Council has, ac-cording to information received from berne, received most formal assurance from Germany guaranteeing once more Switzerland's neutrality. The assurances were given as the result of the fear recently prevailing that Germany was preparing to break through Switzerland into France and Italy."

### JOFFRE NOT IN WAR COUNCIL.

Decree Naming Him Technical Ad viser of Government Revoked.

Panis, Dec. 27.—In addition to a de-cree naming Gen. Joffre a Marshal of cree naming Gen. Joffre a Marshal of France President Folncare has signed another revoking the decrees of December 2, 1915, and December 13, 1916. The first of these appointed Joffre commander in chief of all the French forces except those in the colonies and Morocco, while the second said he would act as technical adviser to the Government. The high command now consists of the War Committee, composed of Premier War Committee, composed of Premier Briand, Gen. Lyautey, Minister of War; Rear Admiral Lacaze, Minister of Ma-rine; Albert Thomas, Minister of National Manufactures: Alexandre Ribot, Minister of Finance, and President Poin-care. The duty of the Minister of War is to notify the other Ministers and commanding generals concerning the de-cisions of the committee and to take measures to insure their concerted execu In addition he is responsible everything concerning the preparation and maintenance of the nation's miliand maintenance of the nation's mili-tary resources. There are two Gen-erals commanding, Gen. Nivelle, who is in command of the armies of the north and northeast, and Gen. Sarrail of the army of the Orient, who, as already announced, is no longer answerable to

grand headquarters but directly to the Minister of War. Divorcee, 16, to Wed Again. LACASTER, Pa., Dec. 27.—Miss Ada H. Burkett. 16, pretty and divorced, and Frank B. Rill, both of Lancaster, have aken out a marriage license. Miss surkett divorced her first husband last May. Her parents consented to the second wedding.



# REPLY AN EVASION IN FIVE DAY BATTLE

"Temps" Says Germany Is Try- Mackensen Smashes Line on Which Czar's Army Stood to Save Moldavia.

"LIBERTE" SEES A TRAP 9,000 PRISONERS TAKEN

Muscovites and Rumanians in Steady Retreat Northward -Brails in Danger.

LONDON, Dec. 27.-Von Mackenser has smashed the strong line on which pondent of THE SUN is able to learn in the Russians and Rumaniars hoped to ircles of authority here Germany's restop his advance in Rumania. The important town of Rimnik Sarat, in northern Wallachia, just south of the southern boundary of Moldavia, has fallen to the Teutons, who in a five day battle that first turned their way on Christmas day have taken \$,000 prisoners, 27 machine guns and other booty.

Their front broken on both sides of Rimnik Sarat, the Russians have been forced to retreat to trenches dug far behind the line from which they were ousted. In the Dobrudja the Teutone report their attack on the bridgehead of Macin is making progress.

By the new demonstration that the power of the Teuton attack has not been broken, the important city of Braila is imperilled. It is considered likely that before long the Russians and Rumanians will have to retreat to the river Sereth itself, leaving Braila to the Teutons. A Danube River port and also a railroad town, Braila is of great value to the

The Danube, however, is now closed to the Allies. By the capture of Isakcha and other positions on the Dobrudja bank of the river, the Teutons have closed the water route from Russia to Rumania. No more troops or supplies can enter Rumania by way of Sulina, at the mouth of the Danube he mouth of the Danube. In the battle near Rimnik Samt the Teutons performed prodigies in attack.
The troops which entered the town after

getting through several lines of barbed wire had to cross the river Rimnik, which flows down from the snowelad Carpathians. Rimnik is on its nothern bank. By the loss of the river the Rus-sians were deprived of another natural

The Teutons attacking the Russian right, west and southwest of Rimnik Sarat, stormed strong positions in the foothills of the Carpathians, many miles in extent, and made more easily defensible by the deep snow that now covers the mountain ranges. Here the Teutons were opposed by Rumanian infantry and Russian cavalry.

Russian Left Is Broken.

Troops of the Danube army. Bul-garians and Turks as well as Germana, broke the Russian left southeast of Rimnik Sarat. These troops stormed strongly fortified Rumanian villages. The attacking infantry had to advance over swampy ground frozen hard as

As a result of this victory the Teuton lines are now pushed perilously close to the important triangle of Rumanian

the important triangle of Rumanian cities, Braila, Galatz and Focani and to the lower Sereth. Rimnik Sarat is twenty-five miles south of Focani, on the road from Buseu, forty-five miles west of Braila and fifty miles west of Galatz. At many points the Teutons are even nearer the Sereth.

If the Russians and Rumanians have to fall back to the Sereth River they will be in almost the last ditch in which it will be possible to save even Moldavia. The present position is hardly as strong as the Rimnik-Sarat line.

Zennelina Lued in Rumania.

Zeppelins are in use on the Rumanian Pacific, but was removed from the black-front. To-day's German statement says that "airships and flying squadrons"

Four Greek Ships Set Pres. have been active behind the hostile front against "important railroad and port establishments." This is taken to mean that Zeppelin raids have been made upon Braila, Galatz and Focsani as well as on Sulina and perhaps even Odessa.

On the remainder of the Russo-Rumanian front no engagement of real importance is reported. Heavy gun fire in the Office Valley on the Moldavian front may presage infantry attacks there, we guaranteeing once more over activity in the Carpathians.

MADRID, Spain, Dec. 25 (via Paris, Dec. 27).—Four Greek steamships—the Omitres, Aristides, Isapina and Contandris—have arrived at Las Palmas, Canary Islands, two of them bound from America with cargoes of wheat and corn, after having been stopped by a German submarine. They were permitted to enter the product of the cargoes at the cargoes at the cargoes at the cargoes are the cargoes at the cargoes are the cargoes at the cargoes are cargoes as the cargoes are cargoes are cargoes as the cargoes are cargoes are cargoes as the cargoes are

was broken by Russian guns.

The German official statement to-night announced the taking of Rimnik Sarat. The statement to-day reads:

Front of Field Marshai von Mack-ensen: The Ninth army, in c five day struggle, has pierced at several places strong Russian positions, which con-sisted of several lines of barbed wire and were tenaciously defended. South-west of Rimnik Sarat the Russians have been completely defeated on a front seventeen kilometers in width.

Russians Forced to Retreat.

Also the Danube army has cap-tured strongly fortified villages and thus has broken into the enemy's front and forced him to retreat into positions prepared further north.

The fighting was violent and the success is due to energetic leadership and the fullest devotion of the troops. The losses to the enemy in casualties were very large. In addition he has were very large. In addition he has left in the hands of the Ninth army since December 22 a total of 7,500 since December 22 a total of 7.800
prisoners, twenty-seven machine guns
and two mine throwers. The number of prisoners taken by the Danube
army is more than 1.300.

In the Dobrudja progress has been
made with the attack against the
Macin bridgehead.

Airships and flying squadrons have
been successfully active in the ene-

been successfully active in the ene-

# my's rear against important railroad and port establishments. Front of Archduke Joseph: In addition to lively activity on the part of patrols, which frequently ended in encounters with the enemy resulting favorably to us, and temporary lively artillery fire along the heights on the east bank of the Golden Bystritsa, there was little fighting activity. In the Oitus Valley there have been artillery duels.

Austrians Take Booty.

Front of Prince Leopold: In the Graberka sector, northwest of Ourocze, Austro-Hungarian detachments brought in thirty-two prisoners and two ma-chine guns from a successful enter-

chine guns from a successful enterprise.

The Russian statement regarding operations on all fronts is as follows:

Rumanian Front.—Throughout the day the enemy made a number of flerce attacks along almost the whole of our front. In the region of the upper stream of the River Rimnik, north of Megura, he succeeded in pressing back slightly our cavalry detachments and infantry detachments of the Rumanians.

On the Rimnik high road our detachments after having repulsed a series of attacks, were obliged to abandon first line trenches, which were demolished by artillery fire.

Enemy attacks in the remaining sectors were beaten back with great losses to him, and in the village of

losses to him, and in the village of Valea-Seltzei by our counter attack we captured several machine guns.

Battle Is Still Raging. The battle along the front con-

In the Dobrudja there were opera-In the Dobrudja there were operations by small detachments.

Western Front—In the vicinity of
the Beresina River, northeast of
Vishneff, our scouts while making a
reconnaissance succeeded in penetrating into the enemy trenches and killed
a number of Germans.

In the direction of Kovel about two
or three communities of the enemy as-

In the direction of Kovel about two or three companies of the enemy assumed the offensive near Little Porsk, but were repulsed by our artillery with great loss. The enemy conducted an artillery fire upon our positions in the region of Dube, Penaiki, Tohepeli and Zvishen (near Brody). He took the offensive in the neighborhood of Dube and Penaiki, but was unsuccessful at both places and was stopped by our fire.

Near the Bystritza River our af-

our fire.
Near the Bystritza River our aftillery dispersed a company of enemy troops moving northeastward from the village of Kosmotch. In the wooded Carpathians on the In the wooded Carpathians on the Moldsvian frontier north of the Usul River our detachments dislodged the enemy from a field post and captured a machine gun. In the same region our riflemen, taking advantage of a fog, succeeded in capturing two trench mortors left by the enemy during Saturday's battle.

### **U-CAPTAIN SPARES** AMERICAN VESSEL

He Lets Skipper of Steamer Sacramento Take Cargo of Wheat to France.

American steamer Sacramento, who ar-rived here from Buenos Ayres with a German submarine. commander of the submarine or-

dered him on board with his and after examining them said: are carrying wheat, which we consider contraband of war, to France. It is lucky for you that your ship is American, otherwise we should have torpedoed you with great pleasure. You can proceed Good luck to you." The only steamer of the name of Sac-

ramento listed in available maritime records is reported by the New York Maritime Register to have been recently transferred from American to British ownership. She was blacklisted by the British Admiralty in April, 1916, on charges of aiding German ships in the

Two Neutral Vessels Sunk. London, Dec. 27.—Lloyd's reports the inking of the Norwegian steamship sinking of the Norwegian steamship Sno. 1,823 tons gross, and the Danish

### RUSSIANS DEFEAT TURKS.

Capture Village Near Lake Vant Ottomans Retreating.

London, Dec. 27.—Several successes for Russian troops fighting the Turks in Asia Minor are reported in an official statement from Petrograd. Near Lake Van the Russians captured the village Attman, driving out the Turks, and at other points they have also defeated the Ottoman troops. The statement is

the Ottoman troops. The statement is as follows:

On Monday night the Turks, about one battallon strong, assumed the of-fensive in the region of Ptrakolai, but were repulsed by our fire. By our counter attack the Turks were driven into their entraphysism. into their entrenchr

In the region of Charafkhan, west of Mush, our detachments drove the Turks from their trenches and cap-tured some prisoners.

In the vicinity of Lake Van our detachments, after having dislodged a Turkish patrol guard, developed an at-tack and occupied the village of Att-man. Under our pressure, the Turks, about a battalion strong, retired east-ward.

For New Year's



SUNDAY DE LUICE DINNER PROM 7 P. M.

MONDAY SPECIAL SUPP AFTER 10 P. M.

### **AUSTRIANS PREPARE BIG TRENTINO DRIVE**

Italian War Minister Admits New Offensive Is Looked For Next Spring.

TEUTON LINE IS STRONG

Invaders Still Hold Mountain Positions Won in Last Thrust.

Special Cable Despatch to TRE SUN. ROME, Dec. 27.—Gen. Morrone, the alian Minister of War, admitted in the hamber to-day that the Austrians and dermans are preparing a great offensive against the Italian front for next spring A deputy in the course of a speech al uded to the forthcoming offensive, and turning to the Minister of War expressed the hope that the necessary preparations were being taken to resist it, and sufficient artillery, ammunition and troops being concentrated where necessary. The Minister tacitly admitted hat the offensive was expected.

To-day's War Office statement is a ollows:

In the Adige Valley our artillery kept the enemy's lines under a vigorous fire and disturbed his working

On the rest of the front the completion of our field works was interrupted at several points by skirmishes with the enemy's advanced posts.

There has been much evidence recently that Italy was apprehensive of a Teu-tonic offensive intended to crush Italy much as Berbia and Rumania were much as Serbia and Rumania were crushed. It has been reported that means to resist such an attempt have been considered in allied war councils. All indications point to the Trentino front as the probable scene of the big Teutonic attack. In recent weeks the Italian official statements have announced repeatedly large movements of Austrian troops behind their lines on this mountainous front and heavy bombardments by Austrian artillery. Intense activity has been noted on the Asiago Plateau and in the Astro Valley.

Plateau and in the Astico Valley.

The Trentino front would seem the most favorable for an Austrian effort. Last spring the Teuton offensive there pushed the Italians back almost to the plains of Venetia, when Russia came to the rescue with her big attack in Galicia in June. The Italians won back much of the lost ground, but the Austrians still hold dominating and strongly fortified mountain positions. Most of the Italian efforts have been expended on the Carso in driving toward Trieste. An Carso in driving toward Trieste. An Austrian offensive in the Trentino might remove the menace to Trieste.

CUTTERS SEEK THE OSAMA.

Clyde Line Vessel Has Not Roported Since Thursday.

Boston, Dec. 27 .- Four coast guard cutters will begin a search to-morrow for the new Clyde Line steamship Csams which has not been reported since sh left Portland, Me., for New York last Thursday afternoon. The Osama recently completed at Detroit, She is commanded by Capt. Dalton and

as a crew of twenty-five.

The coast guard cutters Gresham, Androscoggin, Ossipee and Acushnet re-ceived wireless orders to-night to be on the lookout for the Osama, as It is feared that she has been disabled in

Detectives Sent to Jall.

Detectives Andrew Bornkessel and William F. Loeb pleaded not guilty be-fore Judge Nott in General Sessions yesterday when they were arraigned on the assault charge based on the story of Gertrude Hilten, 14 years old. They were sent to the Tombs in default \$5,000 bail. Immediately afterward Ruth Howard, charged with abducting the Hilten girl, pleaded not guilty, and she was sent to the Tombs in default of \$10,000 bail.

Everything from silk hats to silk socks!

Everything ready-towear to-day or to-night. Winter overcoats, suits, hats, shoes, fixings.

Sporting Goods, including skates, skating shoes, toques, aviator caps, mufflers, mackinaws, skating bags.

Before Christmas we said that everything would be exchangeable after Christmas. Now that you've had time to check things over. we want you to know we really meant it.

If there's anything you have that you don't wantif there's something else you'd rather have-if, well. no matter what the "if," bring it back if you want to. We want everybody to have a Happy New Year!

ROGERS PEET COMPANY

Broadway at 13th St. Broadway at Warres

Fifth Ave. at azet St.

Broadway at 34th St.

### DOULTRY CHOW Crystal Palace Madison Sq. Garden, N.Y.

Live Silver Foxes. Government Exhibits New American Sheep. War Momer Pigeons. Rare Game Birds. Motion Pictures. Free Lectures by Experts.

Sunday and Every Day and Evening Dec. 29 to Jan 2

### SOCIALISTS IN FRANCE **URGE REPLY TO WILSON**

Demand Reparation for the Wrongs Done by Central Empires as Peace Condition.

Paris, Dec. 27.—The Congress of French Socialists by an almost unanimous vote passed to-day a resolution requesting the Entente allied Governments to reply to President Wilson's note concerning peace by saying that they are ready to tell him their conditions for peace, which must include just reparation for the wrongs done by the Central Empires.

The Socialists also declared they were for such a peace as was defined by the Inernational Socialist Congress in London in February, 1915.

It was decided by the Socialists of the Entente allied countries at the London

It was decided by the Socialists of the Entente allied countries at the London conference that "no hope for peace can be entertained until German militarism is crushed." Resolutions were passed urging that Belgium be liberated and compensated; that the question of Poland should be settled in accordance with the wishes of the Pollish people, and that "from Alsace Lorraine to the Balkans those populations that have been raider in the steamship lane.

annexed by force shall receive the right freely to dispose of themselves,"

VOLTAIRE PREY OF GERMANS! Lamport & Holt Liner May Have

Been Captured. A rumor, circulated yesterday and redited to German sources, that the Lamport & Holt liner Voltaire, overdue at this port from Liverpool, has been seized by a German submarine and con-

"A Remarkable Collection of Exceedingly Beautiful Ancient Potteries" At the American Art Galleries Madison Square South, New York ON FREE VIEW 9 A. M. UNTIL 6 P. M.

> Mr. Thomas B. Clarke's Remarkable Collection of Beautiful Pottery Vases of Eastern Origin

REEK BOMAN EGYPTIAN ITALIAN BRODIAN PERSIAN.
HISPANO MORESQUE BABYLONIAN DAMASCUS KUTAIS.
BAKA BRAGES SULTANBAD, ARABIC SPANISH. CANTLE
DUBANTE, DIRUTA, MESOPOTAMIA, TANG, HAN, SUNG.
TUNN, CHING, MING. Dating from the Sixth Century B. C.

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January 3, 4, 5 and 6, at 2:30 o'Clock

\*.\* Catalogue Written by Bana H. Carroll and Illustrated by Freeess Celer Plates and Fine Haifftone Reproductions (Limited Edition). Mailed on Receipt of One Bollar. The sale will be conducted by MR. THOMAS E. KIRBY

and his assistant, Mr. Otto Bernet, of

People of New York:

AMERICANARTASSOCIATION, Managers
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## To the

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